

# ELLIS:LAWHORNE

John F. Beach  
Direct dial: 803/343-1269  
[jbeach@ellislawhorne.com](mailto:jbeach@ellislawhorne.com)

August 22, 2006

**FILED ELECTRONICALLY AND 1<sup>ST</sup> CLASS MAIL SERVICE**

The Honorable Charles L.A. Terreni  
Chief Clerk  
**South Carolina Public Service Commission**  
Post Office Drawer 11649  
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

RE: Application of Wyboo Plantation Utilities, Inc. for Approval of New  
Schedule of Rates and Charges for Water and Sewer Services  
**Docket No. 2005-13-WS, ELS File No. 1015-10306**

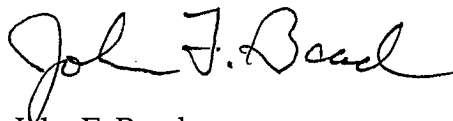
Dear Mr. Terreni:

Enclosed for filing please find the original and one copy (1) copy of an amended **Proposed Schedule of Rates and Charges** and an amended **Notice of Filing and Hearing** for filing on behalf of Wyboo Plantation Utilities, Inc. in the above-referenced matter. These documents correct some material typographical errors contained in the corresponding documents filed last Friday with Wyboo's Application.

Please stamp "received" the additional copy of this letter, and return with the bearer of these documents.

With kind regards, I am

Yours truly,



John F. Beach

JB/cr

Attachments

cc: Office of Regulatory Staff Legal Department, w/a  
Mr. Mark Wrigley, w/a  
Mr. Joe Maready, w/a

**THIS DOCUMENT IS AN EXACT DUPLICATE OF THE E-FILED COPY SUBMITTED TO  
THE COMMISSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS ELECTRONIC FILING  
INSTRUCTIONS.**

## **APPENDIX A**

**WYBOO PLANTATION UTILITY COMPANY, INC.**

**P.O. Box 2099**

**Sumter, S.C. 29151**

**DOCKET NO. 2005-13-WS**

### **PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF RATES AND CHARGES**

**AVAILABILITY:** Available within the Company's service area.

**APPLICABILITY:** **Residential** rates apply to all single family residences within the Company's service area upon which either a dwelling or one or more of its appurtenances is permanently affixed or located.

**Residential Swimming Pool** rates apply to all residential customers who have a swimming pool installed on the premises.

**Irrigation** rates apply to all residential and commercial customers who do not irrigate their property through a well or lake water system.

**Commercial Customers** are those not included in the Residential category above and include, but are not limited to hotels, community pools, comfort stations, stores, restaurants, offices, industry, etc. Commercial rates apply to any commercial customer for any purpose.

**Commercial/Mobile Home** applies to any mobile home park within the Company's service area that is owned or operated as a unitary business by the landlord. The Utility's Commercial/Mobile Home Customer is the owner of the mobile home park. The Utility will provide this Customer with a single monthly bill based upon the number of connected mobile home units in the applicable mobile home park, multiplied by the applicable per-unit rate set forth below.

**Commercial/Mobile Home Irrigation** applies to any Commercial/Mobile Home Customer who does not irrigate its property through a well or lake water system. The Utility will bill such Customers monthly based upon the number of connected mobile home units in the applicable mobile home park, multiplied by the applicable per-unit rate set forth below.

## **WATER SERVICE RATES AND CHARGES**

### **MONTHLY CHARGES:**

<b>Residential:</b>	<b>\$67.00</b>
<b>Residential Swimming Pool:</b>	
Seasonal Filling Charge (April):	\$39.27
Monthly rate (April – September)	\$25.00
<b>Irrigation:</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>
<b>Commercial:</b>	<b>\$80.00 per SFE*</b>
<b>Commercial/Mobile Home:</b>	<b>\$60.00 per Connected Unit</b>
<b>Commercial/Mobile Home Irrigation:</b>	<b>\$15.00 per Connected Unit</b>

### **NONRECURRING CHARGES:**

<b>Connection Fee</b>	<b>¾" Meter (New Customer)</b>	<b>\$1,425.00 per SFE*</b>
	<b>1" Meter (New Customer)</b>	<b>\$1,622.34 per SFE*</b>
	<b>2" Meter (New Customer)</b>	<b>\$2,604.82 per SFE*</b>

This charge is to reimburse the Company for all costs, including labor and materials, associated with establishing the initial service connection. Connection fees for meters larger than 2" are pursuant to contractual agreement between the prospective customer and the Utility.

<b>Plant Impact Fee</b>	<b>\$1,600 per SFE*</b>
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<b>Disconnection/Re-Connection Fee</b>	<b>\$50.00 per SFE*</b>
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This charge is to reimburse the Company for all costs, including labor and materials, associated with disconnecting service and then re-establishing service after disconnect for non-payment, failure to make deposit, fraudulent, or seasonal use. For customers who request to be reconnected within ten months of disconnection, Utility will charge the monthly utility rate for the service period during which they were disconnected. The Customer must pay such accrued monthly rates, along with the Reconnection Fee, prior

to reconnection. This accrued monthly rate provision also applies to Commercial/Mobile Home Customers in calculating total mobile home connections.

The nonrecurring charges listed above are minimum charges and apply even if the DHEC Single Family Equivalency (SFE)\* rating of a customer is less than one (1). If the Single Family Equivalency rating of a customer is greater than one (1), then the proper charge may be obtained by multiplying the equivalency rating by the appropriate fee. These charges apply and are due at the time new service is applied for, or at the time connection to the water system is requested.

## **SEWER SERVICE RATES AND CHARGES**

### **MONTHLY CHARGES:**

<b>Residential:</b>	<b>\$75.00</b>
<b>Commercial:</b>	<b>\$88.80 per SFE*</b>
<b>Commercial/Mobile Home:</b>	<b>\$67.00 per Connected Unit</b>

### **NONRECURRING CHARGES:**

<b>Sewer Service Connection (New Customer)</b>	<b>\$1,425 per SFE*</b>
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This charge is to reimburse the Company for all costs, including labor and materials associated with establishing the initial service connection.

<b>Plant Impact Fee (new customer)</b>	<b>\$1,600 per SFE*</b>
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The nonrecurring charges listed above are minimum charges and apply even if the DHEC Single Family Equivalency\* rating of a customer is less than one (1). If the Single Family Equivalency rating of a customer is greater than one (1), then the proper charge may be obtained by multiplying the equivalency rating by the appropriate fee. These charges apply and are due at the time new service is applied for, or at the time connection to the sewer system is requested.

<b>Disconnection/Re-Connection Fee</b>	<b>\$250.00 per Connection</b>
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This charge is to reimburse the Company for all costs, including labor and materials, associated with disconnecting service and then establishing service after disconnect for non-payment, failure to make deposit, fraudulent, or seasonal use. Customers who ask to be reconnected within ten months of disconnection will be charged the monthly utility rate for the service period they were disconnected. The Customer must pay such accrued monthly rates, along with the Reconnection Fee, prior to reconnection. This accrued monthly rate provision also applies to Commercial/Mobile Home Customers in calculating total mobile home connections.

The nonrecurring charges listed above are minimum charges and apply even if the DHEC Single Family Equivalency (SFE)\* rating of a customer is less than one (1). If the Single Family Equivalency rating of a customer is greater than one (1), then the proper charge may be obtained by multiplying the equivalency rating by the appropriate fee. These charges apply and are due at the time new service is applied for, or at the time connection to the sewer system is requested.

## **TERMS OF SERVICE APPLYING TO WATER AND SEWER CUSTOMERS**

### **Notification and Account Set-Up Charges**

#### **a. Notification Fee**

A fee of four dollars (\$4.00) shall be charged each Customer to whom the Utility mails the notice required by Commission Rule R.103.535.1 prior to service disconnection. This fee assesses a portion of the clerical and mailing costs of such notices upon the customer creating the cost.

#### **b. Customer Account Set-up Charge – for new customers only.**

A one-time fee of \$13.50 shall be charged to defray the Utility's costs of initial account set-up.

### **Billing Cycle**

Recurring charges will be billed monthly, in arrears. Nonrecurring charges will be billed and collected in advance of service being provided.

### **Billing of Tenants**

The Utility will, at its sole option and for the convenience of the owner/landlord, directly bill a tenant in a multi-unit building or within a mobile home park. In the event of non-payment, the Utility may, if technically feasible, and at the Utility's sole option, terminate service to the particular tenant unit, pursuant to applicable statutes and regulations. However, in such cases, the owner/landlord shall remain fully liable for the payment of all water and sewer service charges. In such cases, all arrearages must be satisfied before service will be provided to a new tenant or before interrupted service will be restored. Failure to pay for services rendered to a tenant may result in service interruptions.

### **Extension of Utility Service Lines and Mains**

The Utility shall have no obligation at its expense to extend its utility service lines or mains in order to permit any new customer or development to connect to the Utility's Water or Sewer System. However, the Utility shall not deny service to any prospective customer or developer that will enter into an appropriate agreement with the Utility related to design, construction and ownership of the new facilities, including the new customer or developer's agreement to pay 1) all costs associated with designing, permitting, and constructing the collection system within a new development; 2) all costs associated with designing, permitting and constructing the necessary connection between the Utility's existing system and the new customer or development; 3) an

appropriate contribution in aid of construction representing utility's cost for constructing new capacity or reserving existing capacity in the system, and transfer ownership of the new infrastructure to the Utility upon completion.

Utility shall have no obligation to provide water or sewer service to a new development or customer if the Utility has no available additional capacity, or if DHEC or any other governmental entity has restricted the Utility for any reason from adding the requested additional customers on to the Water or Sewer System.

### **Construction Standards:**

The Utility requires all construction to be performed in accordance with DHEC, EPA, and other generally accepted engineering standards, at a minimum. The Utility from time to time may require that more stringent construction standards be followed.

### **Toxic and Pretreatment Effluent Guidelines**

The Utility will not accept or treat any substance or material that has been defined by the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") or the South Carolina Department of Environmental Control ("DHEC") as a toxic pollutant, hazardous waste, or hazardous substance, including pollutants falling within the provisions of 40 CFR §129.4 and §401.15. Additionally, pollutants or pollutant properties subject to 40 CFR §403.5 and §403.6 are to be processed according to the pretreatment standards applicable to such pollutants or pollutant properties, and such standards constitute the Utility's minimum pretreatment standards. Any person or entity introducing any such prohibited or untreated materials into the Company's sewer system may have service interrupted without notice until such discharges cease, and shall be liable to the Utility for all damages and costs, including reasonable attorney's fees, incurred by the Utility as a result thereof.

### **Grinder Pumps, Step Systems, and Solids Interceptor Tanks**

Design of the Utility Sewer System requires grinder pumps, step systems, and/or solids interceptor tanks to exist on certain Customer premises in order for those Customers to pass sewerage influent into the Utility's System. In these instances, the Customer shall be responsible to purchase and install the appropriate grinder pump, step system, and/or solids interceptor tank at the Customer's expense, and pursuant to the Utility's specifications. The Customer shall own his/her/its installed grinder pump, step system, and/or solids interceptor tank, and shall be responsible for its operation and all necessary maintenance. The Customer is obligated to maintain all lateral connection lines, including any associated grinder pump, step system, and/or solids interceptor tank extending from the customer's premises to the lateral's interconnection with the Utility's sewer main.

Without limiting the forgoing, in the event that the Utility is required, either by a regulatory body, or in order to maintain proper function of the System, to perform any maintenance, on or related to a customer grinder pump, step system, and/or solids interceptor tank, including its installation or replacement, the Customer shall be fully responsible to reimburse the Utility for all costs, including materials, third party labor, Utility labor and overhead, associated with such maintenance. In such event, the Utility shall include a detailed statement of all costs on the Customer's next monthly invoice. All such amounts shall become a part of the Utility's regulated charges for sewer service, and the Customer shall pay all such amounts when due. Any non-payment shall be treated as a non-payment of regulated utility service rates and charges, and the Utility may utilize all available methods of collection, through statute, rule or regulation, including disconnection of service, as appropriate.

In order for a Customer who uses a solids interceptor tank to receive sewerage service from the Utility or to continue to receive such service, the Customer shall install at the Customer's expense a visual inspection port which will allow for observation of the contents of the solids interceptor tank and extraction of test samples therefrom. Failure to provide such a visual inspection port after timely notice of not less than thirty (30) days shall be just cause for interruption of service until an acceptable visual inspection port has been installed.

### **Cross Connection Control, Inspection, and Inspection Fee**

Any customer installing, permitting to be installed, or maintaining any cross connection between the Utility's water system and any other non-public water system, sewer, sprinkler system, swimming pool, or line from any container of liquids or other substances, must install any approved back-flow prevention device in accordance with 24A, S.C. Code Ann., Regs. R.61-58.7F2 (Supp., 2005), as may be amended from time to time. Such Customer shall annually have such cross connection inspected by a licensed certified tester and provide to Utility a copy of a written inspection report and testing results submitted by the certified tester in accordance with 24A, S.C. Code Ann. Regs. R.61-58.7F8 (Supp. 2005), as may be amended from time to time. Said report and results must be provided by the customer to the Utility no later than June 30<sup>th</sup> of each year. Should a Customer subject to these requirements fail to timely provide such report and results, Utility may arrange for inspection and testing by a licensed certified tester and add the charges incurred by the Utility in that regard to the Customer's next bill.

\* A Single Family Equivalent (SFE) shall be determined by using the South Carolina Department of Environmental Control ("DHEC") Guidelines for Unit Contributory Loading for Domestic Wastewater Treatment Facilities --25 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 61-67 Appendix A (2005 Supp.), as amended from time to time. In the event that Appendix A fails to set forth sufficient information for Utility to determine the number of SFE's applicable to a particular customer connection, the Utility may consult directly with DHEC in order to make that determination.



**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

**DOCKETING DEPARTMENT**

**NOTICE OF FILING AND HEARING**

**DOCKET NO. 2005-13-WS**

**WYBOO PLANTATION UTILITIES, INC. – APPLICATION FOR ADJUSTMENT OF RATES AND CHARGES FOR THE PROVISION OF WATER AND SEWER SERVICES.**

Wyboo Plantation Utilities, Inc. (“Wyboo” or the “Company”) has filed an Application with the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the “Commission”) for an adjustment of the Company’s rates and charges, modifications of certain terms and conditions for the provision of water and sewer service, and request for Interim Order related to collection of a water service connection fee. Wyboo is a public utility, as defined by S.C. Code Ann § 58-5-10(3) (Supp. 2004), providing water and sewer service to the public for compensation in certain areas of South Carolina pursuant to rates approved by the Commission in Docket Nos. 96-227-W and 97-391-S.

Pursuant to SC Code Ann § 58-5-240 (Supp. 2005) and 26 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-712.4A and 103-512.4A (Supp. 2005), the Company requests that the Commission approve an increase in its monthly water and sewer service, its sewer connection fee, and the establishment of a sewer Plant Impact Fee, and water Connection Fee and Plant Impact Fee. Also, pursuant to 26 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-503 and 103-703, Wyboo proposes a modification to the terms and conditions of service set forth in its Schedule of Rates and Charges. Wyboo requested revisions include the addition of Notification and Account Set-up Charges, provisions regarding the billing of tenants for water and sewer services to comport with current S.C. Code Ann. § 27-33-50 (Supp. 2005), provisions related to the extension of Utility Services Lines and Mains, Toxic and Pretreatment Effluent Guidelines, and provisions clarifying the ownership, operation and maintenance of grinder pumps, step systems and solids interceptor tanks. Additionally, the Company proposes to add language requiring its customers to conduct cross connection testing and to add a charge for same if such inspections are undertaken by the Company to meet the requirements of 24A S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 61-58.7.F.8 (Supp. 2005). The Company also proposes to include a definition of single family equivalent by reference to applicable regulation.

In support of its request for an adjustment in the Company’s water and sewer rates, terms, and conditions, Wyboo asserts, among other things, that the proposed water and sewer rate increases are necessary in order that it may provide reasonable and adequate service to its customers, comply with standards and regulations set by the Department of Health and Environmental Control, and other governmental agencies which regulate the environmental aspect of the Company’s business, and earn a reasonable operating margin in order to borrow money and attract capital for future improvements. The Company also asserts that the proposed water and sewer rate increases are necessary to preserve its financial integrity and to permit continued investment in and maintenance of its facilities so as to provide reliable and high quality services.

**THE PROPOSED CHANGES IN THE RATES AND CHARGES ARE SET FORTH  
BELOW**

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(The complete rate schedule is available from the Company at the address below and on the Commission's website at [www.psc.state.sc.gov](http://www.psc.state.sc.gov))

**WATER SERVICE RATES AND CHARGES**

**MONTHLY CHARGES:**

	<b><u>Current</u></b>	<b><u>Proposed</u></b>
<b>Residential:</b>	<b>\$18.00</b>	<b>\$67.00</b>
<b>Residential Swimming Pool:</b>		
Seasonal Filling Charge (April):		<b>\$39.27</b>
Monthly rate (April – September)		<b>\$25.00</b>
<b>Irrigation:</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>
<b>Commercial:</b>	<b>\$18.00</b>	<b>\$80.00 per SFE*</b>
<b>Commercial/Mobile Home</b>	<b>\$18.00</b>	<b>\$60.00 per connected unit</b>
<b>Commercial/Mobile Home Irrigation:</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>	<b>\$15.00 per connected unit</b>

**NONRECURRING CHARGES:**

<b>Connection Fee</b>	<b>¾" Meter (New Customer)</b>	<b>\$1,425.00 per SFE*</b>
	<b>1" Meter (New Customer)</b>	<b>\$1,622.34 per SFE*</b>
	<b>2" Meter (New Customer)</b>	<b>\$2,604.82 per SFE*</b>

Connection fees for meters larger than 2" are pursuant to contractual agreement between the prospective customer and the Utility.

<b>Plant Impact Fee</b>	<b>\$1,600 per SFE*</b>
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<b>Disconnection/Re-Connection Fee</b>	<b>\$50.00 per SFE*</b>
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**SEWER SERVICE RATES AND CHARGES**

**MONTHLY CHARGES:**

	<b><u>Current</u></b>	<b><u>Proposed</u></b>
Residential:	\$20.00	\$75.00
Commercial:	\$20.00	\$88.80 per SFE*
Commercial/Mobile Home:	\$20.00	\$67.00 per Connected Unit

**NONRECURRING CHARGES:**

Sewer Service Connection (New Customer)	\$1,425 per SFE*
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This charge is to reimburse the Company for all costs, including labor and materials associated with establishing the initial service connection.

Plant Impact Fee (new customer)	\$1,600 per SFE*
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Disconnection/Re-Connection Fee	\$250.00 per SFE*
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In order for testimony and evidence to be received from all interested parties, a public hearing will be held in the Commission's Hearing Room, Synergy Business Park, 101 Executive Center Dr., Columbia, S.C. on \_\_\_\_\_, **2006** at \_\_\_\_\_ **a.m.**

Any person who wishes to testify and present evidence at the hearing should notify, in writing, the Docketing Department and John F. Beach, Esquire, Ellis, Lawhorne & Sims, P.A., Post Office Box 2285, Columbia, South Carolina 29202 on or before \_\_\_\_\_, **2006**, and indicate the amount of time required for the presentation.

Any person who wishes to express their views but is unable or does not desire to appear and testify at the hearing should submit those views to the Docketing Department, in writing, on or before \_\_\_\_\_, **2006**.

Any person who wishes to participate in the hearing, as Party of Record with the right of cross-examination should file a Petition to Intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, on or before \_\_\_\_\_, **2006**.

Persons seeking information about the Commission's Procedures should contact the Commission in Columbia at 803-896-5100.

Public Service Commission of South Carolina  
Attn: Docketing Department  
Post Office Drawer 11649  
Columbia SC 29211